DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION A SENATE RESOLUTION to honor the life and accomplishments of Arjia Rinpoche. STOOPS ______, read first time and referred to Committee on



2013 DR 3818/DI ds

First Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2013)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1	A SENATE RESOLUTION to honor the life and
2	accomplishments of Arjia Rinpoche.
3	
4	Whereas, Arjia Rinpoche, the 8th Agya Hotogtu
5	(Lobsang Tubten Jigme Gyatso), is one of the most prominent
6	Buddhist teachers in the world, and is the only Tibetan high
7	lama of Mongolian descent;
8	Whereas, Arjia was recognized by the 10th Panchen
9	Lama as the 20th Arijia Danpei Gyaltsen at the age of two,
10	meaning he is the reincarnation of Lama Tsong Khapa's
11	father, Lumbum Ghe, and the throne holder of the Kumbum
12	Monastery in China;
13	Whereas, Arjia has trained with many prominent
14	Buddhist teachers, including the 14th Dalai Lama, the 10th
15	Lanchen Lama, and Gyayak Rinpoche. He studied the
16	subjects of Buddhist philosophy, sutra and tantra teachings,
17	and Buddhist art, language, and architectural design;
18	Whereas, After being forced to leave his monastery
19	during the Cultural Revolution in Chinese controlled Tibet,
20	Arjia showed his dedication by continuing to practice

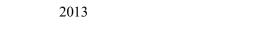


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1	Buddhism and study with his tutors in secret;
2	Whereas, During the Cultural Revolution, Arjia's spirit
3	was not broken, even when required to work in a forced
4	Labor Camp for 16 years;
5	Whereas, Following the end of the Cultural Revolution,
6	returned to the Kumbum Monastery and reestablished
7	monastic life and traditional studies. The monastery is one o
8	the six largest monasteries of the Gelugpa school of Tibetan
9	Buddhism, and was once home to 3,600 monks;
10	Whereas, Arjia has launched several projects in Tibet,
11	including the Red Cross Organization in Kumbum, the
12	Disaster Relief Project for local villages, a clinic for
13	villagers that is run by monks of the Tibetan Medical
14	Institute, and a school for local village children;
15	Whereas, Arjia left Tibet for the United States in 1998
16	due to the strained political climate in Tibet. He founded the
17	Buddhist Center for Compassion and Wisdom in Mill Valley,
18	California, and was appointed by the 14th Dalai Lama as the
19	Director of the Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center
20	(TMBCC) in Bloomington, Indiana;
21	Whereas, The TMBCC is a 108 acre non-profit
22	organization comprised of the Kumbum Chamtse Ling
23	Monastery, a Cultural Building, 2 traditional Tibetan Stupas
24	4 Retreat Cottages, a Teaching Pavillion, and 2 private
25	residences. Their mission is to foster, preserve, and educate
26	about Tibetan and Mongolian cultures in the United States,
27	host cultural exchanges between Tibetans inside and outside
28	of Eastern Tibet, follow the example of the renowned
29	Kumbum Monastery in Tibet, and promote interfaith
30	harmony;
31	Whereas, Arjia built a three-dimensional Kalachakra
32	Mandala, which was presented to the Dalai Lama, and was



1	later donated to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington
2	D.C.; and
3	Whereas, Arjia authored a novel about his memoirs
4	entitled <u>Surviving the Dragon</u> : Therefore,
5	Be it resolved by the Senate of the
6	General Assembly of the State of Indiana:
7	SECTION 1. The Indiana Senate honors the life and
8	accomplishments of Arjia Rinpoche.
9	SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
10	transmit copies of this resolution to Arjia Rinpoche and the Tibetar
11	Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center in Bloomington, Indiana.



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